

United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Addres: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Vingina 22313-1450 www.usplusgov

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. FIRST NAMED APPLICANT ATTY. DOCKET NO.

> 10/500,336 Giorgio De Cicco

07552.0032

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/IB02/05572

22852 FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER 901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413

I.A. FILING DATE PRIORITY DATE 12/20/2002 12/28/2001

CONFIRMATION NO. 9867 371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER *OC000000014914850*

Date Mailed: 01/13/2005

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

06/28/2004

06/28/2004

DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS

DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE. The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 06/28/2004
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 06/28/2004
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 06/28/2004
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 07/09/2004
- Oath or Declaration filed on 06/28/2004
- Copy of references cited in ISR filed on 06/28/2004
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 06/28/2004
- Assignment filed on 06/28/2004
- Priority Documents filed on 06/28/2004

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

CHRISTINE S WASHINGTON Telephone: (703) 305-3752

PART 3 - OFFICE COPY

FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)